

Message Text

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70

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-10 EB-07 IO-10 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8250

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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ROME FOR FAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, FAO, GW

SUBJECT: FRG ASSISTANCE FOR SAHEL FOOD DELIVERY
SYSTEM

1. DURING DISCUSSION OF FRG FOOD AID PROGRAM IN SAHEL, VOELZKE, DIRECTOR OF FOOD AID PROGRAM IN AID MINISTRY, QUERIED EMBOFF REGARDING POSSIBLE USG INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENT OF A FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE SAHEL ZONE. VOELZKE BELIEVES THAT THE RELATIVELY LARGE FOOD AID PROGRAM CONDUCTED BY THE FRG AND OTHER DONORS SHOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM FOR FOOD TRANSPORT, STORAGE, AND MARKETING. THE FRG ENVISIONS A SIZEABLE PROJECT REQUIRING THE INPUTS OF SEVERAL DONORS.

2. IF THE US AND OTHER MAJOR DONORS EXPRESS SUFFICIENT INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT, VOELZKE WOULD LIKE TO SEE DONOR COOPERATION HANDLED THROUGH FAO/OSRO IN MUCH THE SAME FASHION AS CURRENT OSRO COORDINATION OF THE PLANT PROTECTION PROJECT. THE FRG HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED ITS INTEREST IN DEVELOPING A FOOD DELIVERY SYSTEM WITH FAO/OSRO OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO VOELZKE,
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THEY GAVE THE PROPOSAL THEIR BLESSING AND HOPE THAT

ENOUGH DONOR INTEREST WILL BE GENERATED TO HOLD A PROSPECTIVE-DONOR MEETING UNDER FAO AUSPICES. THE DETAILS OF THE PROJECT WOULD BE WORKED OUT DURING THIS MEETING.

3. FOR FAO/ROME: YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS PROSPECTIVE PROJECT WITH OSRO OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO GAUGE MORE PRECISELY THEIR INTEREST, AS WELL AS TO EXPLORE WHAT THEY KNOW CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF OTHER DONORS IN THIS FIELD.

4. FOR AID/W: VOELZKE VIEWS A FOOD DELIVERY SYSTEM PROJECT AS A NECESSARY FOLLOWUP TO THE 1975 GERMAN FOOD AID PROGRAM, WHICH IS FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON ASSISTANCE FOR LOCAL PURCHASE OF FOOD GRAINS. HE BELIEVES THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD HAVE TO GET ROLLING BEFORE SUMMER IF THE PROJECT IS TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON DISTRIBUTION OF THIS YEAR'S LOCAL PURCHASES.
HILLENBRAND

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